



Annapolis Can Benefit From More Clean Energy

Across Maryland, clean energy is booming – reducing pollution, cleaning our air, creating jobs and saving money. Contributing to the boom is the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative – America’s best regional clean air and climate program – which is limiting pollution and generating funding for clean energy programs.

But we can do much more. We have the tools to power our society entirely with clean energy sources like the wind and the sun, while also using energy more efficiently. Clean energy can help protect Annapolis from the worst impacts of global warming, such as sea-level rise, and build a healthier and more prosperous future.

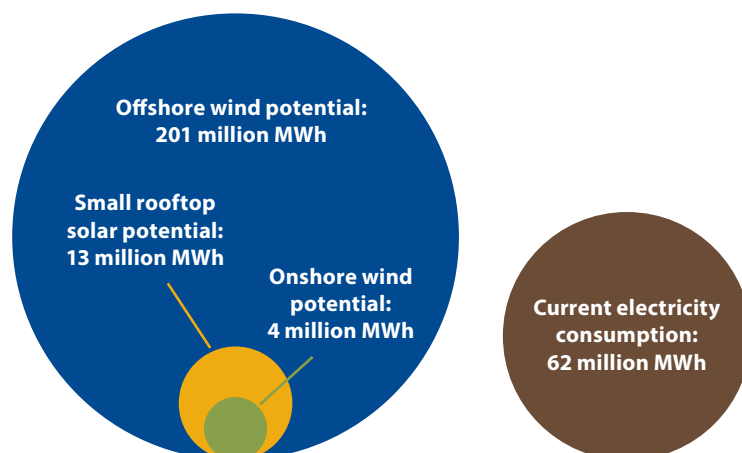
To accelerate our progress, Maryland and other Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern states should double the strength of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative to help create an even stronger market for clean energy.

Here’s how more clean energy can benefit Annapolis – and Maryland:

Maryland Has Immense Renewable Energy Potential

Maryland could generate nearly **four times more electricity with solar and wind power than it uses** in the course of a year. Tapping even a fraction of that potential could enable Maryland to power itself entirely with clean energy.

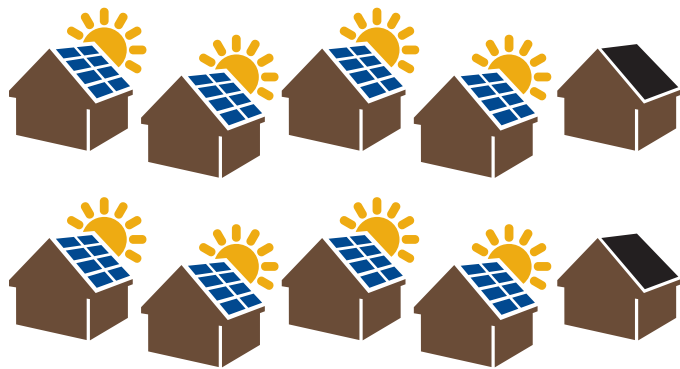
Comparison of Renewable Energy Technical Potential and Current Consumption in Maryland



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Clean Energy Can Replace Dirty Fuels

Maryland has the potential to generate nearly **11 times more electricity from wind and solar than is currently produced by polluting fuels**, like gas, in the state.



Annapolis's Rooftops Can Generate Clean Electricity Locally

More than **8 out of 10 small buildings in Annapolis have the potential to host rooftop solar panels** – providing reliable electricity for residents and reducing dependence on fossil fuels, according to data from the U.S. Department of Energy.

Maryland Has Tremendous, Untapped Wind Energy Potential

Maryland has the potential to produce enough power with onshore and offshore wind turbines to **power all the homes in Maryland seven times over**.



Offshore wind, pictured here in Denmark, is currently undeveloped in Maryland.

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Energy Efficiency Is Saving Money and Cutting Pollution

Maryland ranks 9th among states for energy efficiency, according to the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy. Energy efficiency programs implemented in 2015 in Maryland **saved enough energy to power all the homes in Annapolis three and a half times over.**



Clean Energy Creates Jobs

More than 4,000 people in Maryland are employed in solar energy jobs.

Renewable Energy is Good Business

Businesses and organizations in Annapolis and across Maryland benefit from a **growing clean energy economy**. For example, partly through funding from Maryland's participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, poultry farms across the state have been able to upgrade their energy efficiency. Improvements at five poultry farms in 2014 saves an estimated annual 209 MWh of electricity and 16,000 gallons of propane, while reducing carbon pollution equivalent to taking more than 50 passenger vehicles off the road, each year.



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Stronger Action Will Make Us Healthier

Clean air means better health. In its first six years, the **Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative** saved **60 lives in Maryland** and prevented 5,000 missed work days due to respiratory illness, according to Abt Associates. Cutting pollution faster would save even more lives and improve public health in Maryland.



Stronger Action Will Boost Our Economy

Between 2009 and 2014, the **Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative** boosted Maryland's economy by **\$348 million**, according to reports by Analysis Group. Doubling the strength of the program as part of a larger climate change program could reduce energy bills in the nine participating states by \$25 billion and create nearly 60,000 new jobs, according to a report by the Sierra Club.

Maryland Should Take the Lead

Maryland has set strong goals on clean energy and fighting climate change – now it's time to achieve them. **Governor Hogan should double the pace at which Maryland is cutting pollution and investing in clean energy.** In 2017, the state should strengthen the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative to cut carbon pollution by 5 percent per year – and persuade neighboring states to do the same.



For more information and citations, please visit www.EnvironmentMaryland.org/RGGIAnnapolis

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